

It would be a disservice to the travelling public to block satellite radio from broadcasting local traffic and weather. Living 30 miles from the office, I rely on the instant traffic report on a daily basis to help determine which route I will take to get to and from work. It broadcasts the traffic and weather as soon as I am ready for it. Local radio stations make you wait from 10-30 minutes through news, music, advertising or inane chatter to get the same information, at which point it is usually too late to be of any use. I didn't fully appreciate the instant traffic and weather updates until my husband and I were caught in a quickly forming hailstorm. We were in my husband's vehicle that isn't equipped with satellite radio and tried frantically to find a radio station with ANY information at all about the status of the storm. It took 15 minutes to get a weather update, even on a local 'news' radio station. If we had the XM Instant Traffic & Weather, we'd have known instantly whether or not the storm was widespread or isolated so we could get home safely.

Please oppose HR 4026 and it's efforts to block instant traffic and weather via satellite radio.